The Promised Land - A Note from the Transition

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We stand at the edge of the last energy bottleneck. The physics of fusion is solved. What remains is engineering: making it cheaper, smaller, reliable. That work will take time - maybe a century. But once it arrives, everything changes.

1. The cost tsunami

New energy sources don't spread by treaty. They spread by price. Fusion will follow the path of solar, but more completely. $20B plants become $2B, then $200M, then $2M neighbourhood units. When every community can own its own, hoarding energy becomes absurd. No one can embargo the oceans. Economics makes monopoly pointless before politics does.

2. The end of material scarcity

When energy costs → zero, the cost of almost everything else follows. Manufacturing, transport, recycling - all become trivial. Work stops being about survival. It becomes optional. We keep it only for meaning, craft, and curiosity.

3. KUDOS: the new currency

If money can't buy what you need, status comes from what's still scarce: attention, respect, wisdom, kindness. Those who teach, heal, mediate, create, and care earn KUDOS. Idle consumers are tolerated, but they earn no prestige. The game flips from zero-sum wealth wars to positive-sum wisdom competition.

4. Power becomes informal

Leaders won't control resources, because resources won't be controllable. They'll be chosen by trust and character alone. Coercion dies when no one can threaten your food, heat, or shelter. The material reasons for borders disappear. A human brotherhood becomes practical, not just moral.

5. The test is the transition

The dangerous century is now - while fusion is rare and expensive. That's when old powers will try to hoard it. Surviving that phase without fusion wars is the test. If we do, the tsunami of cheap energy is unstoppable. The physics guarantees it.

I can taste it coming. My great-grandchildren will grow up where energy is background, like clean water from a tap. They won't argue over kilowatt-hours. They'll argue over which reef to restore, which story to tell, whose kindness to celebrate.

The physics is done. The engineering is coming. The society we build after will be stranger and better than we can imagine today.

To those who read this later: We saw it coming. We believed it was worth the wait.

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For: My great-grandchildren, and anyone curious about what comes after scarcity